

If a third party somehow gains access to your account and transacts business that you would not approve of, you must contact the bank and your local law enforcement authorities, who have jurisdiction over this type of wrongdoing.

FDIC-INSURED

*Checking Accounts
(including money market
deposit accounts)*

*Savings Accounts
(including passbook accounts)*

Certificates of Deposit

*Retirement Accounts
(consisting of cash on deposit
at a bank or thrift)*

NOT FDIC-INSURED

*Investments in mutual funds
(stock, bond or money market
mutual funds), whether purchased
from a bank, brokerage or dealer*

*Annuities (underwritten by
insurance companies, but sold
at some banks)*

*Stocks, bonds, Treasury securities
or other investment products,
whether purchased through a
bank or a broker/dealer*

For More Information from the FDIC

Call toll-free at **1-877-ASK-FDIC (1-877-275-3342)** from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday-Friday.

For TDD call **1-800-925-4618**.

Calculate your insurance coverage on-line using the FDIC’s Electronic Deposit Insurance Estimator at: **www2.fdic.gov/edie**

Request a copy of **“Your Insured Deposits,”** which provides a detailed discussion on all the ownership categories, by calling toll free **1-877-275-3342** or on-line at: **www.fdic.gov/deposit/deposit/insured**

Read more about FDIC insurance online at: **www.fdic.gov/deposit**

Send your questions by e-mail using the FDIC’s on-line Customer Assistance Form at: **www2.fdic.gov/starsmail**

Mail your question to:
**FDIC Division of Supervision
and Consumer Protection**

Attn: Deposit Insurance Outreach
550 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20429-9990

This brochure is intended to present information in a non-technical way and is not intended to be a legal interpretation of FDIC regulations and policies.

May be reprinted without restriction
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Washington, DC 20429

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INSURED

Or

NOT INSURED

**A Guide
to What Is
and Is Not
Protected
by FDIC
Insurance**



So — you feel your cash is safe and protected when you walk through the door of the bank or saving association, much safer than when you kept it under your mattress. And you should. **BUT**, are your funds all covered by FDIC insurance just because you walked into a secure-looking building with iron bars and guards? Not necessarily — it depends on which of the bank’s products you decide to use and whether the bank is FDIC insured.

WHAT IS INSURED?

You are probably familiar with the traditional types of bank accounts — checking, savings, trust, certificates of deposit (CDs), and IRA retirement accounts — that are insured by the FDIC. Banks also may offer what is called a money market deposit account, which earns interest at a rate set by the bank and usually limits the customer to a certain number of transactions within a stated time period. All of these types of accounts generally are insured by the FDIC up to the legal limit of \$100,000 and sometimes even more for special kinds of accounts or ownership categories. For more information on deposit insurance see FDIC brochure “Your Insured Deposits.”

WHAT IS **NOT** INSURED?

Increasingly, institutions are also offering consumers a broad array of investment products that are not deposits, such as mutual funds, annuities, life insurance policies, stocks and bonds. Unlike the traditional checking or savings account, however, these non-deposit investment products are **not** insured by the FDIC.

Mutual Funds

Investors sometimes favor mutual funds over other investments, perhaps because they hold promise of a higher rate of return than say, CDs. And with a mutual fund, such as a stock fund, your risk — the risk of a company going bankrupt,

resulting in the loss of investors’ funds — is more spread out because you own a piece of a lot of companies instead of a portion of a single enterprise. A mutual fund manager may invest the fund’s money in either a variety of industries or several companies in the same industry.

Or your funds may be invested in a money market mutual fund, which may invest in short-term CDs or securities such as Treasury bills and government or corporate bonds. Do not confuse a money market mutual fund with an FDIC-insured money market deposit account (described earlier), which earns interest in an amount determined by, and paid by, the financial institution where your funds are deposited.

You can — and should — obtain definitive information about any mutual fund before investing in it by reading a prospectus, which is available at the bank or brokerage where you plan to do business. The key point to remember when you contemplate purchasing mutual funds, stocks, bonds or other investment products, whether at a bank or elsewhere, is: Funds so invested are **NOT** deposits, and therefore are **NOT** insured by the FDIC — or any other agency of the federal government.

Securities you own, including mutual funds, that are held for your account by a broker, or a bank’s brokerage subsidiary are not insured against loss in value. The value of your investments can go up or down depending on the demand for them in the market. The Securities Investors Protection Corporation (SIPC), a non government entity, replaces missing stocks and other securities in customer accounts held by its members up to \$500,000, including up to \$100,000 in cash, if a member brokerage or bank brokerage subsidiary fails. For more information contact:

Securities Investor Protection Corporation
805 15th Street, NW Room 800
Washington, DC 20005
202-371-8500
www.SIPC.org

Treasury Securities

Treasury securities include Treasury bills (T-bills), notes and bonds. T-bills are commonly purchased through a financial institution.

Customers who purchase T-bills at banks that later fail become concerned because they think their actual Treasury securities were kept at the failed bank. In fact, in most cases banks purchase T-bills via book entry, meaning that there is an accounting entry maintained electronically on the records of the Treasury Department; no engraved certificates are issued. Treasury securities belong to the customer; the bank is merely acting as custodian.

Customers who hold Treasury securities purchased through a bank that later fails can request a document from the acquiring bank (or from the FDIC if there is no acquirer) showing proof of ownership and redeem the security at the nearest Federal Reserve Bank. Or, customers can wait for the security to reach its maturity date and receive a check from the acquiring institution, which may automatically become the new custodian of the failed bank’s T-bill customer list (or from the FDIC acting as receiver for the failed bank when there is no acquirer).

Even though Treasury securities are not covered by federal deposit insurance, payments of interest and principal (including redemption proceeds) on those securities that are deposited to an investor’s deposit account at an insured depository institution **ARE** covered by FDIC insurance up to the \$100,000 limit. And even though there is no federal

insurance on Treasury securities, they are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government — the strongest guarantee you can get.

Safe Deposit Boxes

The contents of a safe deposit box are **not** insured by the FDIC. (Make sure you read the contract you signed with the bank when you rented the safe deposit box in the event that some type of insurance is provided; some banks may make a very limited payment if the box or contents are damaged or destroyed, depending on the circumstances.) If you are concerned about the safety, or replacement, of items you have put in a safe deposit box, you may wish to consider purchasing fire and theft insurance. Separate insurance for these perils may be available; consult your insurance agent. Usually such insurance is part of a homeowner’s or tenant’s insurance policy for a residence and its contents. Again, consult your insurance agent for more information.

In the event of a bank failure, in most cases an acquiring institution would take over the failed bank’s offices, including locations with safe deposit boxes. If no acquirer can be found the FDIC would send boxholders instructions for removing the contents of their boxes.

Robberies And Other Thefts

Stolen funds may be covered by what’s called a banker’s blanket bond, which is a multi-purpose insurance policy a bank purchases to protect itself from fire, flood, earthquake, robbery, defalcation, embezzlement and other causes of disappearing funds. In any event, an occurrence such as a fire or bank robbery may result in a loss to the bank but should not result in a loss to the bank’s customers.